## For additional information, contact:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7, WWPD Watershed Planning and Implementation Branch 901 N. 5<sup>th</sup> Street Kansas City, KS 66101

Phone No. 1-800-223-0425

Website: www.epa.gov/region7/wetlands

Kathleen Mulder, U.S. EPA Region 7 Life Scientist Kansas Section 404/ Wetlands Prog. Coordinator Phone No. 913-551-7542

Carl Stevens, U.S. EPA Region 7 Outreach/Education Coordinator Phone No. 913-551-7569

E-mail: mulder.kathy@epa.gov

E-mail:stevens.carl@epa.gov



WATER - Your Resource For LIFE

785.296.3185 cg FAX: 785.296.0878

1-888-KAN-WATER The State's Water Planning Agency





## Who is Protecting Our Water and Wetlands?

Several federal and state agencies are responsible for

protecting water and wetlands in the United States. In Kansas these agencies include: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers(Corps), U.S. Dept. of Agriculture (USDA), Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment (KDHE), Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks (KDWP), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Kansas Water Office, Kansas Dept. of Agriculture (KDA), Kansas Div. of Water Resources (KDWR), U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that anyone placing dredged or fill material into waters of the United States, including wetlands, must first obtain a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). Permits and other aspects of the program are jointly administered by the Corps and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency in partnership with state and local governments.

If you make any modification to a waterbody, or to an area that might be a wetland, you may need a permit or certification from one or more agencies, depending upon the intended activity and the type of the area involved. There may be laws other than the Clean Water Act or regulations which apply for individual situations. We recommend consulting with state, county and local agencies to determine if there are additional requirements.

Waters of the U.S. may include the following:

Lakes Streams Rivers Sloughs Wetlands Other

#### What are Wetlands?

Wetlands are areas that are saturated, flooded or ponded for varying periods of time during the growing season. Wetland vegetation and soils may be different from that of surrounding nonwetlands, due to the effects of water. Wetlands are classified according to the amount of water, geographical location, type of vegetation, and other factors. Some of the types in Kansas are known as marshes, sloughs, and fens.

#### **Benefits of Wetlands**

- •Provide habitat for fish and wildlife
- •Improve water quality and protect related water resources
  - •Provide flood protection
  - •Buffer shorelines against erosion
  - •Provide areas of recreation

### Benefits of Streams and Their Vegetative Borders

- •Supply drinking water
- •Improve and protect surface water quality
- •Provide habitat for fish and wildlife
- •Provide recreation: fishing, boating and swimming

## Why Be Concerned About Wetlands?

Wetlands are very important to all of us. However, they have disappeared at an alarming rate. A large percentage of wetlands have been drained, filled and converted for agricultural production and urban development. It has been estimated that about 48% of Kansas wetlands have been lost. Approximately 57% of threatened and endangered species are found in aquatic habitats.

Once a wetland is destroyed, it is very difficult and sometimes impossible to replace. Even under ideal conditions, it may take years to reestablish the proper vegetation, soil and water conditions which existed in the original wetland.

# **ACTIVITIES-CONTACTS-REGULATIONS-INTERNET SITES**

If You	Who You Need To Contact:	Why	Examples of Some Projects Requiring a Permit:	Internet Sites For Information and Copies of the Laws and Regulations:
Place Fill Material or Excavate in Waters of the U.S., including a Wetland, or Excavate or Remove Material from Waters of the U.S.  Obstruct a Stream  Construct Fills or Levees in Floodplains	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Kansas City District: NE KS Area: 601 E. 12th St. Kansas City, MO 64106 Phone: 816-983-3990 N. KS Area: 107 Riverside Dr. Marquette, KS 67464 Phone: 785-546-2130 S. KS Area: 2710 NE Shady Creek Access Road El Dorado, KS 67042 Phone: 316-322-8247	Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) requires that the Corps of Engineers issue a permit for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands (33 USC 1344). The Corps permit regulations are in 33 CFR 320-330.	May include, but aren't limited to: Building or modifying a dam, creek, waterway, wetland, pond or stream	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Kansas City District:  http://www.nwk.usace.army.mil/regulatory/regulatory.htm
	Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment, Watershed Management Section, Bureau of Water 1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 420 Topeka, KS 66612 Contact: Scott Satterthwaite Phone: 785-296-5573	K.A.R (Kansas Administrative Regulations) 28-16–28b thru 28f(c)(1) Sec. 401 of the CWA	Any projects that could discharge or cause runoff of pollutants to Kansas waters	Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment <a href="http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/nps/index.html#">http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/nps/index.html#</a> <a href="mailto:resources">resources</a>
	Kansas Department of Agriculture, Div. of Water Resources 109 SW 9 <sup>th</sup> St., 2 <sup>nd</sup> Floor Topeka, KS 66612 Contact: Edward Byrd Phone: 785-296-2933	K.S.A. (Kansas Statutes) No. 82a-301 to 305a	Constructing or changing a dam, levee, or any other water obstruction	Kansas Dept. of Agric., Div. of Water Resources <a href="http://www.accesskansas.">http://www.accesskansas.</a> org/kda/dwr
		K.S.A. No. 24-126	Constructing or changing a levee or fill	
Have Stormwater Runoff from Construction Activites	Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment, Industrial Programs, Bureau of Water 1000 SW Jackson St., Suite 420 Topeka, KS 66612 Phone: 785-296-5549	K.S.A. No. 65-164 & K.S.A. No. 65-165 & K.A.R. No. 28-16-28 et seq. (Other regulations may be applicable.) Sec. 402 of the CWA	Stormwater runoff from construction activities	Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment <a href="http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/stormwater/index.html">http://www.kdhe.state.ks.us/stormwater/index.html</a>
Need Assistance with Farm Management Plans or Soil Conservation (for example, the Conservation Reserve Program or Wetlands Reserve Program)	U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Local Farm Service Center Contact: Dist. Conservationist Phone: See your local directory	Technical planning and program eligibility for potential cost share assistance	Check with local NRCS representative to insure that other permits are not required	NRCS <a href="http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/KSPrograms2.html">http://www.ks.nrcs.usda.gov/KSPrograms2.html</a>
Need Technical Assistance for Determination of Federal Endangered Species	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 315 Houston Manhattan, KS 66846 Contact: Susan Blackford Phone: 785-539-3474	Federal Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) Reg: 50 CFR Part 17 Act: Title 16 USC, Sec. 1540	Projects in federal and state refuges and parks	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. <a href="http://www.r6.fws.gov/ks.html">http://www.r6.fws.gov/ks.html</a>
Need Technical Assistance for Determination of State Endangered Species	Kansas Dept. of Wildlife and Parks 512 SE 25 <sup>th</sup> Ave. Pratt, KS 67214 Contact: Chris Hase Phone: 620-672-5911	K.S.A.32-957 thru 32-963, 32-1009 thru 32-1012, and 32-1033. K.A.R. 115-15-1 and 115-15-3	A state permit for endangered species may be required	Kansas Dept of Wildlife and Parks. <a href="http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us">http://www.kdwp.state.ks.us</a>
Need Long-Term Water Planning and Policy Information	Kansas Water Office 901 S. Kansas Avenue Topeka, KS 66612 Contact: Steve Hurst Phone: 785-296-3185	Information on high priority areas in the 12 Kansas river basins, and potential educational demonstration site proposals.	None required	Kansas Water Office <a href="http://www.kwo.org">http://www.kwo.org</a>

Note: During the Section 404 Process, the Corps will coordinate with KDHE, KDWR, FWS, EPA, KDWP and other state and federal agencies regarding the public interest issues about your project. If you need to apply for a permit from KDWR, they will coordinate with all of the appropriate state agencies through the Environmental Coordination Act (ECA).